



April 22, 2005

Fed Ex: 8392 1531 5012

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

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Re: WC Docket No. 05-65; SBC Communications Inc. and AT&T Corp. Applications for Approval of Transfer of Control

Dear Secretary Dortch:

We are writing you today to encourage your swift approval of the pending merger between SBC and AT&T.

From our perspective as officers of one of the largest economic development organizations in the State of Texas, we strongly believe that this merger will accelerate competition and innovation, which are two key drivers to our economic growth. There are over one hundred communications companies, both large and small, currently offering competitive services to customers in the Houston region.

Of course, markets aren't merely local any longer. With the creation of a new SBC, complemented with the international networks of AT&T, we will see an even more vibrant sense of competition nationally and internationally. That is exactly what our businesses need to compete successfully on a global basis.

In the end, consumers and businesses win. In short, this merger is good for the country.

Sincerely,

Jodie L. Jiles
Chairman of the Board

Jim C. Kollaer
President and CEO

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